(*c*) Does not the Regulation, as it stands, require that the whole consignment should be confiscated and the party charged before a Magistrate?

(*d*) What was the total value of the consignment and was not this amount lost to Government by the order of release?

(*e*) Is it a fact that, on making enquiries at Alleppey, it has been brought to light that oil has been systematically smuggled by a certain firm, during the last two years, by which Government have suffered very great loss?

(*f*) If the above is true, what action have the Government taken on these matters?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to question No. 6.

State Life Insurance.

8. MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of making the State Life Insurance compulsory for Government employees?

MR. R. NILAKANDA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): The State Life Insurance Scheme was first introduced in the year 1073. It was optional in the case of all Government servants who entered the State service prior to the 1st Makaram, 1073, and compulsory in the case of all Government servants who entered the pensionable service in the State after that date, provided that the age of the officer did not exceed 45 years or his monthly salary was not below Rs. 10. As several representations were received through the heads of departments stating that compulsory insurance worked real hardship on low-paid servants, Government had to revise their order in 1084 and make the scheme optional. The G. O. declaring insurance optional is published in the Government *Almanac and Directory* as a preface to the rules. Government do not therefore propose to make it compulsory again.

Arayalam Payment of Kist.

9. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the months of Tulam and Vrischikam fixed for the *arayalam* payment of kist are unsuited to the tax-payers, and particularly to those of the Onattukara region?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the amounts payable during these months are mostly realised only in Makaram?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to fix Dhanu and Makaram for the above purpose?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*c*) On receipt of the same interpellation from the member prior to the session of the Council in Karkadakam, 1098, the question of

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